TARC NEWSLETTER

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SEPTEMBER, 1995

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Charles Fagel KR4YZ 267-1475 SECRETARY: Bobbi Sue Wood AD4VV 268-8537
V.PRESIDENT: Tom Nguyen AD4NA 636-6663 TREASURER: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building
TARC Nets: VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910
Friendship - Thursdays at 1830 hrs on 146.910
Mosquito - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC Repeaters: VHF - 146.910 and 146.970. UHF - 444.150

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Charles Fagel KR4YZ

The first of August arrived in a memorable fashion, bringing Hurricane Erin, then a tornado, and reality of emergency conditions and activities. The 146.910 net was activated at 1430 hrs and the 28.333 a short time later, resulting in a large number (I understand 40 +) of club members reporting to a variety of locations for emergency duty, including operating or standing by in their homes. Covered was the hospital, fire stations, police station and the schools being used as shelters in both Titusville and Mims.

The emergency brought out the need for a number of changes in not only our emergency plans, but also those of the Red Cross and City/County plans. In response to the need for change to our plans, we will devote a portion of the August meeting for a constructive critique of the events and experiences resulting from Hurricane Erin.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to all who volunteered during the emergency. We are not going to try to name you, but you know who you are. You were on duty from activation to stand down, which was 12 plus hours. If at all possible please attend the August 22, meeting. We need your inputs.

As reported in the July newsletter, we applied for a club call sign, and are happy to report that TARC has been assigned KF4CFN as the club sign. As yet vanity calls have not been issued, but when they are, we will be applying for one. We will need to give a list of 20 calls to the FCC, so put on your thinking caps and give your suggestions to Bobbi Sue and we will submit them to the FCC. If you have more than one suggested call sign, list them in order of preference.

If you have not as yet contacted Kay KD4VFQ relative to the September pot luck dinner, please do so.

Remember also the TARC hamfest on November 11. Volunteers are still needed, so call now. Also keep in mind the "Ham of the Year" award. We need your nominations by the October meeting.

Last but not least, we have purchased the authorized 2.5 kw generator. It is in our possession and is fully operational.

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING AUGUST 22.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

SEPT. 1	WB4SIG DAVE MCLEAN
SEPT. 3	KC4HUG FAYE MARTIN
SEPT. 5	KA4NZM DICK RUFFE
SEPT. 7	KE4MWG PAMELA QUARNOCCIO
SEPT. 9	W4YWA DICK MCKLVEEN
SEPT. 12	K4DII FRED MCKENZIE
SEPT. 14	KE4MWF TIM PRICE
SEPT. 14	W4VQB BOB NEDIMYER
SEPT. 14	WA8JDT PETE MILLER
SEPT. 15	KC4HIQ SHIRLEY SWEATT
SEPT. 15	W1BSO MAYNARD CHENEY
SEPT. 15	N4YGP KAREN WHALL
SEPT. 16	KE4BIA KATHRYN SHAVER
SEPT. 19	KD4CBV GEORGE BORTLE
SEPT. 20	KE4MNL CALVIN HENSHAW
SEPT. 21	KE4YQN BILL KING
SEPT. 24	KE4JBP JOAN HATFIELD
SEPT. 28	KD4UZS JOE CARTER
SEPT. 28	WB2UNK GEORGE FLORES

A HELPING HAND DURING ERIN

The TARC is grateful to W0LRC, Coffey, for the support he gave to their communications by keeping his 146.670 repeater operating on emergency power when the 91 and the 97 machines were down due to power outages. This was a life saver to the club and is greatly appreciated.

INTRODUCING THE TARC TIGER TAIL

Want to improve the performance of your HT on 2 meters? With the simple slip on tiger tail antenna you can get an improved signal out (rated 10DB) with the same power level (or less for longer battery life). The tiger tail rolls up to slip in the shirt pocket when not in use - instantly ready to use when needed. This is a club fund raising project. For a $1.00 donation you can own the TARC tiger tail. Available at the Aug. 22 meeting, or contact K4EOS at 267-9375.

FCC ADOPTS $30.00 FEE FOR VANITY CALL SIGNS

W5YI News Report

On June 14, the FCC adopted a Schedule of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 1995. Section 9 of the Communications Act requires the FCC to assess and collect annual regulatory fees in order to recover the costs specified by Congress for its enforcement, policy and rule making, international activities, and user information service.

The basic concept of regulatory fees is to charge those who benefit from FCC services rather than all taxpayers. The authority to impose and collect regulatory fees is contained in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 - the so called Clinton Deficit Reduction Plan.

The amount to be collected in Fiscal Year 1995 is nearly double the $60.4 million the FCC was required to recover in FY-94. As a result, fees for many services are significantly higher than in FY-94 - but NOT those of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

The FCC tried to ease the burden of the new fee requirements by revising its system for assessing fees to better assure that the fee payments are reasonably related to the benefits derived from the Commission's regulation. The so-called user fees for the private wireless radio services were actually reduced. The collection of regulatory fees for fiscal year 1995 will begin on September 18 after a 90 day Congressional notification period.

Of particular interest to personal radio users is a reduction in the Annual Regulatory Fee from $7.00 to $3.00 for Marine ship/boats, Aircraft/Aviation Ground, General Mobile Radio Service stations and licensees... and "Vanity" Station Call Signs selected by amateur operators. This means that amateur station call signs chosen by the licensee will now cost $30 for 10 years instead of the previous $70.

APPLYING FOR A VANITY CALL SIGN

Keep in mind that the amateurs will be applying for special call signs according to phased-in program developed by the ARRL and accepted by the Commission. You will not be able to apply for a special call sign until the FCC's Gettysburg, PA computer is ready to handle the program.

Even then, only FCC form 610-V applications for previously held call signs or the call sign of a close, deceased relative will be accepted in Phase One. The second "gate" then opens to Extra Class licensees, the third gate to the Advanced Class. Lastly, gate four would open the system to any licensee. The timing of when to submit your application will be announced by Public Notice.

Furthermore, you may only select a call sign appropriate for your license class (or lower) and only call signs available to the sequential call sign system are available. For example: AA1AAA and NA1AAA are authorized US amateur call signs according to the FCC (Part 2.302) rules. But the 1978 Sequential Call Sign System does not provide for the issuance of AA-AL or NA-NZ by 3 letter amateur call signs. There are many instances where seemingly obtainable call signs are not available to the Sequential Call Sign System.

Payment for a Vanity call sign must be submitted with the application and "...shall include an advance payment of the total annual regulatory fee payment due for the entire term of the license" In other words, $3.00 times 10 years equals the $30.00 payment. Applications without the fee will be returned.

"Any regulatory fee payment must be submitted in the form of a check, bank draft or money order denominated in US dollars and drawn on a United States financial institution and made payable to the Federal Communications Commission or by Visa or Master card credit cards only. ...any regulatory fee payment made by credit card or money order must be submitted with a completed FCC Form 159." (remittance Advice)

And there is no guarantee that Amateur Vanity Call Signs will remain at the $30 level for a ten year term. The rules provide that the fees can (and most assuredly will be) adjusted annually if the actual cost of the services provided increases or decreases over the initial projection.

WHO NEEDS MORSE CODE?

From Sept.'95 QST
By Mike Anderson WV7T/6

Several weeks ago I began having a deep, burning pain in my upper back. Over the next few days, it grew more intense. Doctors prescribed medication, but it didn't even touch the pain! By this time, it felt like a hot poker being stuck in my back, with my left arm also raging with pain.

Finally, the doctors took me along the route of the Spine Clinic - X-rays, MRI, etc. The diagnosis was an oversized herniated disc, partially fragmented and pressing against nerves near the spinal cord. No options. Immediate surgery!

The surgeons removed the disc in my neck and replaced it with a bone graft. The four hour surgery was quite invasive, and I ended up in the recovery room looking quite the sight - an IC, oxygen tube down the throat, and all the monitors. I was alert, but couldn't talk. The doctors and my wife Rhoda, KB2BZY were asking all kinds of questions. I took Rhoda's hand and started tapping out slow Morse code onto her hand. She quickly caught on, and was soon, to the amazement of the doctors, answering their questions and making the usual patient's complaints!

The good news is that the operation was a success, and I've had no more pain.

Incidentally, Rhoda is a Tech Plus who doesn't work CW, but still remembers the code from her late 1980's Novice license. But she copied my 3 or 4 wpm "hand-sent" Morse solid!

Who needs Morse code? Right!

DAVE WELDON
15TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEES:
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VICE CHAIRMAN, SPACE SUBCOMMITTEE

ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
VICE CHAIRMAN, OVERSIGHT SUBCOMMITTEE

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(407) 632-1776

August 8, 1995

Mr. Charles Fagel, President
Titusville Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 73
Titusville, Fl 32781-0073

Dear Mr. Fagel:

I would like to convey my thanks to you and your support team in the timely preparation and distribution of services during Hurricane Erin.

I know that your club worked long and arduous hours that resulted in immeasurable contributions to the safety, comfort and health of numerous Brevard County Citizens. Your enthusiasm, dedication and professional expertise is without peer as you responded to a variety of challenges that have produced admirable results.

Mr. Fagel, your devotion to duty and realistic approach to tasks during this crisis is to be commended.

With warm regards and best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely,

Dave Weldon
Member of Congress

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

LATE REPORT

From W5YI Report

As expected, the Newt Gingrich affiliated *Progress and Freedom Foundation* released an 80 page report recommending the Federal Communications Commission be abolished.

Only 500 of the FCC's 2200 employees would remain - 1700 would be axed by September, 1998. A large independent agency would not be needed since spectrum would be sold - rather than licensed. The FCC would reemerge as a much smaller office within the federal government's executive branch. Other highlights from the comprehensive plan:

- Unless Congress acts to preserve regulations, all FCC rules and regulations will be rescinded in three years.
- Immediate repeal of all FCC licensing authority.
- All current FCC license holders would receive property rights in the spectrum, enforced by the trespass laws.
- Deeds recorded in a central Spectrum Registry File.
- Any spectrum that has more than one claimant would be auctioned within 180 days.
- Government agencies must "disgorge" their unused spectrum within a determined time frame.
- All restrictions on use of spectrum would be eliminated. Those who win title could develop and/or resell the spectrum subject to antitrust review and geographic and interference boundaries; however, legislation would not set forth interference rights in detail.
- Department of Justice would confiscate any devices used in violation of communications rules.
- Complaint investigation and answering of general inquires from the public discontinued.
- Spectrum above 300 GHz is infrared rather than radio. A spokesman for the Progress and Freedom Foundation charged that "The federal government is not fostering but hindering the development of digital technology."
- FCC Chairman Reed Hundt issued the following statement: "This distinguished group of old FCC vets and new arrivals is right to care about the communications revolution. Their good ideas are already being put into practice at the FCC. But they're wrong on their number one factual assumption; when it comes to competition, we ain't seen much yet.

  "And they're wrong on their vision: the public interest has a huge stake in the communications revolution and private interests should not own 100% of the action.

  "And they're wrong on the FCC's job definition: the Congress and the public want and need us to write fair rules of competition, collect still more money from spectrum auctions and protect consumers from monopolies."
- On May 31, FCC Commissioner Jim Quello issued a press statement:

  "The Progress and Freedom Foundation Report reflects the well considered opinions of a group of intellectual visionaries who are ten years ahead of themselves. It requires further thoughtful review. At this time, its proposal for restructuring the FCC is too drastic and impractical.

  "Perhaps many of the Report's proposals, particularly the personnel reductions, could be implemented at some time in the future when competition replaces the need for regulation. This will come with the eventual establishment of a multi-channel, multi-faceted communications information highway offering consumers a variety of competitive choices for communication services. Although we at the FCC are working toward that goal, we are not there yet."

  Quello suggested that the FCC adopt a wait and see attitude since pending telecommunications legislation could result in the need for many FCC rule makings to fully open the communications marketplace to competition.

THOUGHTS FROM CHUCK NORRIS

Do what has to be done without complaint and think only positively. Don't allow yourself to think negatively.

You can always do a little more than you thought you could if you push yourself beyond what you think are your limitations.

A true champion can deal with his failures and losses as well as his successes, and he learns from both.

Surpassing another person should not be your goal. All that really matters is what you accomplish yourself.

TREASURER'S REPORT

By K4EOS Clyde Lee

BALANCE FORWARD FROM 1994	1,070.58
DEPOSITS Year to date	3,983.55
TOTAL INCOME	$5,054.13
EXPENDITURES	3,447.13
BALANCE AS AT 7/31/95	$1.607.00

JULY MEETING

By Bobbi Sue Wood AD4VV

The meeting was called to order at 1900 hrs by Chuck - KR4YZ before 48 members and 1 guest. After the 'pledge', a moment of silence, and the introductions, the following items were covered.

1. Kay KD4VFQ iterated the idea of a pot luck supper in conjunction with the September meeting, if there seems to be sufficient interest. Those interested should contact Kay prior to the August meeting.

2. Copies of the TARC budget for 1995 were distributed and discussed, and the members voted unanimously to approve it as submitted.

3. Cliff - KC4SYD reviewed plans for the upcoming hamfest at Fox Lake Park, and he noted the following chair people:

Cliff KC4SYD	Table Sales
Sherry Hughes	Food Service
Kay KD4VFQ	Publicity
Chuck KE4RIV	Security
Bud K4CWG	Associate
Michael KE4MWZ	Programs
Les K4SJC	T'ville Table
Warren KS4GP	Tail Gate
Clyde K4EOS	Finance

4. The 145.490 repeater plans were discussed. The estimated cost for this project is $1500.00

5. Les K4SJC noted that he has several items of station equipment belonging to Dan Boyle for sale. As you may know, Dan is escaping the household chores and moving into a retirement home.

6. Bobby of the Jaycees gave a brief presentation on Jaycee associate memberships available for $25 per year for ages under 21 and older than 40. He invited TARC folks to join.

7. Donna, Jaycees president, expressed her thanks to the members for their support to Jaycee activities. She noted that later this year the Jaycees will celebrate their 50th anniversary, and they will appreciate our continued help at that time.

8. Charlie KR4YZ announced that the TARC roster will be updated and made available for members at club meetings, quarterly. This will replace the mailing list which was distributed monthly by the secretary. Also, he commented that new members are sometimes ignored at club affairs, and he asked for volunteers to form a welcoming committee. He also reminded members of the Christmas party which is scheduled at Royal Oak on December 16. The party is being cochaired by Pike W4EPU and Clara KE4YQL.

My thanks to Pike W4EPU for covering during my absence. I must go to school on the way he keeps his notes!

PRAISE THE LORD FOR H-T'S

From Sept. '95 QST

By Brother Joe Tortorici AC1U

Hams are often targets of good natured teasing about always having an H-T on their belts. Having one paid off for me the day I was visiting one of our schools in Boston.

When I started out of the building, I went through the inner door. It closed and locked behind me. Then I found out that the outer door was padlocked - I was locked in between the two doors! I rapped on the glass doors for about 10 minutes, but no one was around to hear me.

I turned on my H-T and made a call on a local repeater, and another ham called the community residence and reported my predicament. Within 10 minutes I was rescued by one of our priests, ending my fear of perhaps being trapped for the entire weekend. Another rescue, thanks to ham radio!

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

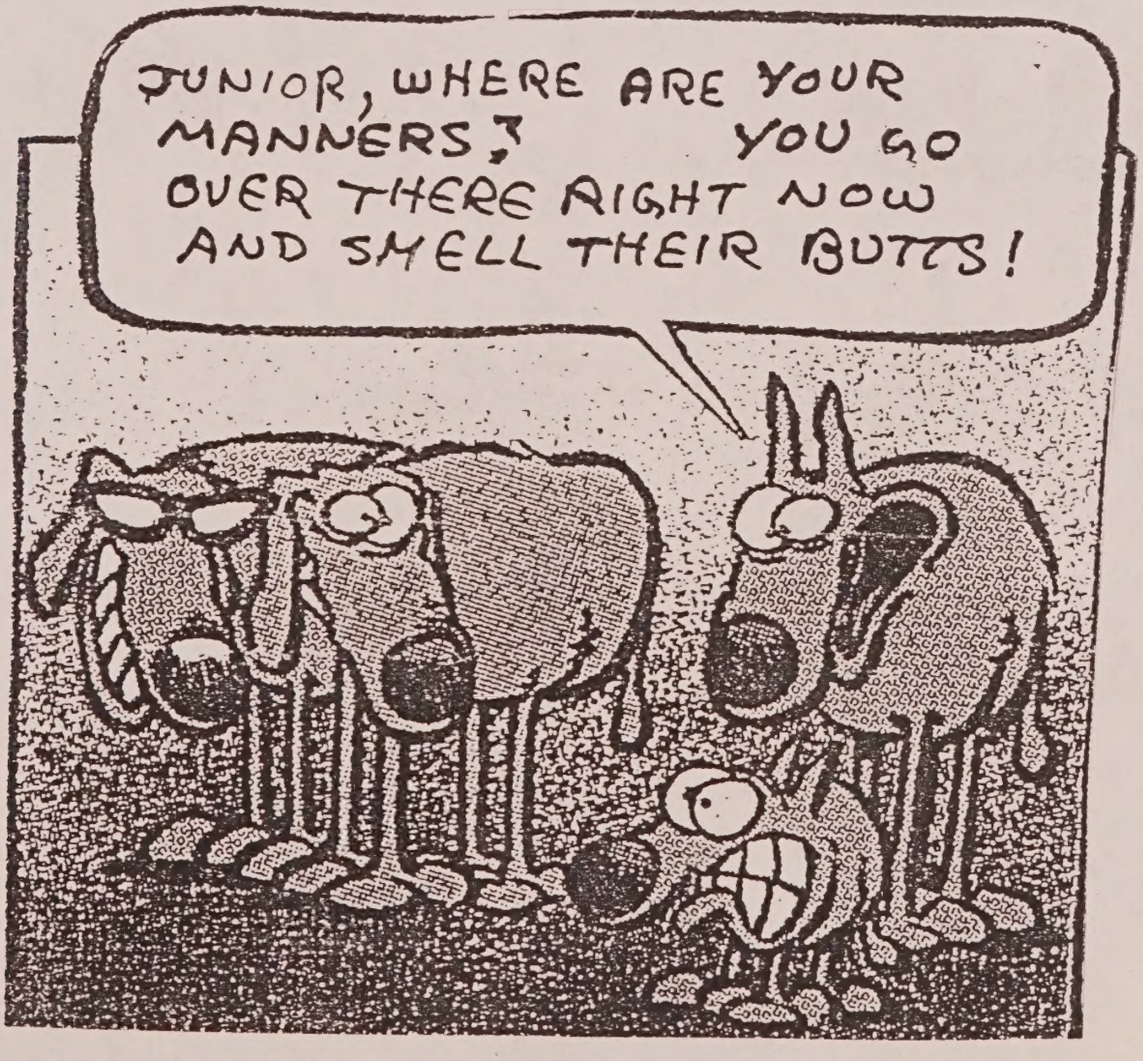
By Pike W4EPU

When I was a young boy living on the farm in Arkansas, my uncle occasionally took me fishing. One time he caught a 7-1/2 pound catfish. At the time it was the biggest fish I had ever seen. Obviously, I wanted it in the worst way.

He put it on a stringer, we baited our hooks and threw our lines back in the water. While we were fishing he told me a story he had heard about a person who trained a catfish to live out of water. He simply took it out of the water for a few minutes a day. Each day keeping it out a little longer than the day before. Eventually it would become accustomed to it and could stay out indefinitely. He told me that if I would be willing to try training him, he would give me the fish. I told him I would, because in fact, I would agree to anything if I could just have that fish.

We had a small spring fed pond behind the barn in which I put the catfish. Just as my uncle explained it, I kept it out of water more and more each day until finally one day I went to the pond and the fish was not there. I heard a commotion in the chicken yard. I went to investigate. There the catfish was playfully chasing the chickens. I never put him back in the water again.

Several weeks later I took him to the county fair, just to show him off. I won a blue ribbon by default, because actually I was the only person at the fair who displayed a non-aquatic catfish. On the way home I was walking and carrying my pet catfish. I was crossing a bridge when I looked down and saw fish swimming in the stream below., I laid my catfish down on the bridge and was watching the fish swim around. The catfish flopped of the bridge and fell into the water. I ran to the end of the bridge, down the bank, into the water and retrieved him, but it was too late. He had already drowned.



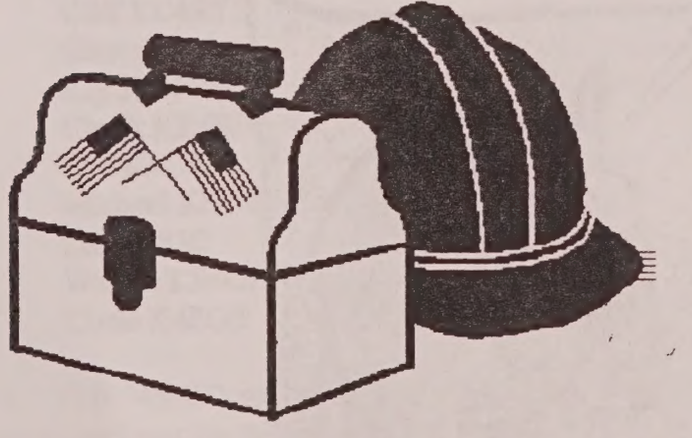
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 293. (220 regular, 63 family, 10 honorary.)

NEW MEMBERS: Tom Burns AC4DY
Craig Black KE4MWW
Janet Black KE4MUX

RENEWALS: Walt Fanton K4DZY
Bruce Jacobs WA3EKM
Art Zippler KH6GH
Neal Cranston W4GMW
Pat Thomas K4LNQ
Frenchy Poulin KD4NQ
Penny Poulin KE4BBI
Ben McMahan KD4TLS
Jim Robinson WB4RIS
Dave Hart N4WWG
Gene Mann KC4TE
Holland Starkey W4NMB

HAMFEST CALENDAR

8/26	Madison, GA
9/9-10	Melbourne, FL
9/23	Anniston, AL
9/24	New Port Richey, FL
10/7	Biloxi, MS
10/8	Boaz, AL
10/14	Augusta, GA
10/14	Stark, FL
10/21-22	West Palm Beach, FL
10/28	Port St. Lucie, FL
11/4	Mobile, AL
11/4	Eustis/Mt.Dora, FL
11/4-5	Lawrenceville, GA
11/11	Titusville ARC Cliff Hoag, KC4SYD
11/18-19	Tampa, FL
12/2	Dotham, AL
12/2	Okeechobee, FL
12/9	Lake City, FL

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